

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 11-17 are pending in this application. Claim 11 is currently amended. Claims 1-10 and 18-23 were previously canceled. No new matter has been added. Support for the amendment to claim 11 may be found in the application as originally filed in FIG. 16.

Claims 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Su (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0001819) (hereinafter "Su") in view of Yin (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0167482) (hereinafter "Yin").

Claims 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Su in view of Yin and further in view of Wu (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0135562) (hereinafter "Wu").

Claim 11 has been amended to overcome the rejection over Su in view of Yin. As amended, claim 11 is not obvious over Su in view of Yin. Specifically, claim 11 has been amended to recite "the alignment groove is substantially triangular to guide the alignment protrusion to the alignment groove as the input device is placed in the charging base." The triangular shaped alignment groove provides that the input device can be placed in the charging base with relatively "loose" precision by a user (e.g., misaligned with the charging base), and with this loose placement, the input device will settle into the charging base with correct alignment because the alignment groove and the alignment protrusion will align the mouse to the charging base as the input devices moves into the charging base. For example, after the input device has been loosely placed in the charging base, gravity pulling the input device into the charging base will force the triangular shaped alignment groove to align with the alignment protrusion, and thereby the input device will align to the charging base. Further, because of this alignment caused by the triangular shaped alignment groove and the alignment protrusion, electrical contacts of the input device can be contacted to electric contacts of the charging base although the input device is loosely placed in the charging base.

In contrast, Su describes a mouse having a top housing having keys that are integrally formed with a palm rest portion of the top housing. See FIG. 1 of Su. A side view of the bottom housing of the Su mouse is shown in FIG. 2. The bottom housing is not shown or

described as including an alignment groove that "is substantially triangular to guide the alignment protrusion to the alignment groove as the input device is placed in the charging base" as recited in amended claim 11. Therefore, Su fails to show or suggest every limitation of amended claim 11.

Yin fails to make up for the deficiencies of Su. As shown in FIG. 8 of Yin, the Yin portable computer includes hooks 152 that are configured to align and latch with slots 250, which are formed in the bottom surface of the Yin peripheral device 254. The Yin portable computer also includes an alignment pin 160 that is configured to align with an alignment aperture 252, which is formed in the bottom surface of peripheral device 254. Neither slots 250 nor alignment aperture 252 are triangularly shaped to facilitate the alignment of the peripheral device to portable computer if the peripheral device is placed with loose precision on the portable computer. Therefore, Yin fails to make up for the deficiencies of Su. Therefore, Su in view of Yin fails to anticipate amended claim 11.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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